

# THE SAFE SUPPLY CONTINUUM

Safe supply refers to the provision of pharmaceutical alternatives to the poisoned drug supply. There are many iterations and interpretations of safe supply, ranging from medicalized settings to decriminalization, legalization, and regulation.



## Clinical Delivery

### Examples

- Injectable opioid agonist therapy (iOAT) and table injectable opioid agonist therapy (tiOAT)
- Crosstown Clinic and Intercommunity Health Clinic

### Benefits

- Most studied delivery model
- Generates evidence for future practice

### Harms

- Rooted in paternalism
- Flawed metrics for success
- History of mistrust d/t harms towards people who use drugs
- Moralizing and coercive at times



## Harm Reduction

### Examples

- SAFER initiatives
- Embedding in overdose prevention sites (OPS) and supervised consumption services (SCS)
- MySafe vending machine

### Benefits

- Reduces death, disease, and community harms associated with higher risk activities
- Rooted in ending the war on drugs and supporting drug user liberation

### Harms

- Underfunded/under resourced
- Misunderstood and/or opposed in many power structures



## Drug User Liberation

### Examples

- Decriminalization of people who use drugs (PWUD)
- Heroin compassion clubs
- Legalization/regulation
- Reconciliation
- Decolonization

### Benefits

- Targets the root cause of the overdose emergency
- Safer drug supply and individual right to choice
- Redistribution of monies to community and social programs.

### Harms

- Slow progress r/t decision-maker apathy

Harm Reduction is the bridge between the medical model and individual choice